

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 1840

## 91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SEIGFREID.

Read 1<sup>st</sup> time February 7, 2002, and 1000 copies ordered printed.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

4389L.011

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### AN ACT

To repeal section 105.477, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to electronic filing of lobbying reports.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 105.477, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 105.477, to read as follows:

105.477. 1. The commission shall supply [a computer program] **an electronic reporting system** which shall be used **by all lobbyists registered with the ethics commission** for filing by [modem or by a common magnetic media chosen] **electronic format prescribed** by the commission. The [computer program] **electronic reporting system** shall be able to [run on DOS,] **operate using either the Windows or Macintosh** [based personal computers or run on any other common personal computer operating environment which may become available in the future] **operating environment with minimum standards set by the commission.**

2. The commission shall have the appropriate software and hardware in place by January 1, [1998] **2003**, for acceptance of reports electronically. The commission shall make this information available via an Internet web site connection by no later than January 1, [1999] **2004.**

3. All lobbyists shall file expenditure reports required by the commission electronically [either through modem or common magnetic media] **as prescribed by the commission.** In addition, lobbyists shall file a signed form prescribed by the commission which verifies the information filed electronically within five working days; except that, [if] **when** a means becomes available which will allow a verifiable electronic signature, the commission may accept this in lieu of a [written statement] **signed form.**

**EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

17           4. All records that are in electronic format, not otherwise closed by law, shall be  
18 available in electronic format to the public. The commission shall maintain and provide for  
19 public inspection, a listing of all reports, with a complete description for each field contained on  
20 the report, that has been used to extract information from their database files. The commission  
21 shall develop a report or reports which contain every field in each database.

22           5. Annually, the commission shall provide[, without cost, a system-wide dump of] **to the**  
23 **general assembly at no cost a complete copy of** information contained in the commission's  
24 electronic **reporting system** database files [to the general assembly]. The information [is to]  
25 **shall** be copied onto a medium specified by the general assembly. Such information shall not  
26 contain records otherwise closed by law. It is the intent of the general assembly to provide open  
27 access to the commission's records. The commission shall make every reasonable effort to  
28 comply with requests for information and shall take a liberal interpretation when considering  
29 such requests. Priority shall be given to public requests for reports identifying lobbyist or  
30 lobbyist principal expenditures per individual legislator.